

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A sales system for selling a product by using the Internet, comprising:

a user terminal connected to the Internet; and

a supplier terminal which, upon receiving an application for purchasing the product from the user terminal via the Internet, charges a commission fee ~~to from~~ the user operating the user terminal, randomly selects a price at which the product may be purchased ~~of the product~~ from a plurality of prices within a predetermined price range, and presents the selected price on the user terminal together with a predetermined term of validity, the predetermined term of validity being the time period during which the user may purchase the product at the randomly selected price.

2. (original): A sales system for selling a product by using the Internet according to claim 1, wherein the supplier terminal stores the standard price of the product, and the commission fee is determined by multiplying a predetermined rate to the standard price.

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U.S. Appl'n No.: 09/840,825

3. (original): A sales system for selling a product by using the Internet according to claim 1, further comprising an audit authority terminal for supervising the settings of the prices by the supplier terminal.

4. (original): A sales system for selling a product by using the Internet according to claims 1, further comprising a reselling function for reselling the privilege to purchase the product at the price presented by the supplier terminal to a third person.

5. (currently amended): A sales method for selling a product by using the Internet, comprising the steps of:

receiving an application for purchasing a product from a particular user terminal via the Internet;

charging a commission fee ~~to~~^{from} the user operating the user terminal;

randomly selecting a price at which the product may be purchased ~~of the product~~ from a plurality of prices within a predetermined price range; and

presenting the selected price on the user terminal together with a predetermined term of validity, the predetermined term of validity being the time period during which the user may purchase the product at the randomly selected price.

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6. (original) A sales method for selling a product by using the Internet according to claim 5, wherein the commission fee is determined by multiplying a predetermined rate to the standard price stored beforehand.

7. (currently amended): A storage medium storing a sales program for executing the processes comprising:

upon receiving an application for purchasing a product from a particular user terminal via the Internet, charging a commission fee ~~to~~^{from} the user operating the user terminal;

randomly selecting a price at which the product may be purchased~~of the product~~ from a plurality of prices within a predetermined price range; and

presenting the selected price on the user terminal together with a predetermined term of validity the predetermined term of validity being the time period during which the user may purchase the product at the randomly selected price.

8. (original) A storage medium storing the sales program according to claim 7, wherein the process of charging the commission fee comprises multiplying a predetermined rate to the standard price stored beforehand.

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9. (previously presented) The sales system for selling a product by using the internet according to claim 1, wherein a price history of the product is presented on the user terminal together with the selected price of the product.

10. (previously presented) The sales system for selling a product by using the internet according to claim 1, wherein the commission fee is non-refundable.

11. (previously presented) The sales system for selling a product by using the internet according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined term of validity contains an expiration date, such that a user cannot purchase the product after the expiration date.

12. (previously presented) The sales method for selling a product by using the internet according to claim 5, further comprising presenting a price history of the product on the user terminal together with the selected price of the product.

13. (previously presented) The storage medium storing the sales program according to claim 7, further comprising presenting a price history of the product on the user terminal together with the selected price of the product.

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14. (previously presented): The sales method for selling a product by using the internet according to claim 5, wherein the predetermined term of validity contains an expiration date, such that a user cannot purchase the product after the expiration date.

15. (previously presented): The storage medium storing the sales program according to claim 7, wherein the predetermined term of validity contains an expiration date, such that a user cannot purchase the product after the expiration date.